* SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Suppose, Sir, the point had been raised that a Bill had been circulated to some Members. Is it enough, Sir, if only one Member denies the fact."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Sri Manjaya Shetty showed from the official report that he had not stated so."

* SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Because he made a reference to the particular Bill in question, we had an opportunity to refer to his name. But suppose the Bill had been circulated to four Members and only one Member had the opportunity to deny the fact and the other Members had not the occasion to refer to it. In such a situation, will it not be better for the Government to state the correct position? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" On behalf of the Government, the Leader of the House has spoken."

* SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Suppose, Sir, we have got certain proposals . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let us not go into hypothetical proposals. On the facts of the case, I have given my ruling."

III.—MOTION UNDER RULE 40 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES *RE* STRIKE OF THE WORKERS OF THE BRINDAVAN PROPERTIES, LIMITED, WELLINGTON; COONOOR.

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, I will read the subject-mater of the motion I have given notice of—

' The workers of the Brindavan Properties, Limited, Wellington, Coonoor, are on stay-in-strike from 17th February 1955 since the demand of the workers for one month's bonus for 1953-54 has been refused even though the same has been recommended by the conciliation officer. The Government also have failed to intervene in time to settle the dispute and to avert the strike even though sufficient notice was given. '

என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. பிரந்தாவனம் பிராபர்ட்டீஸ் என்பது ஒரு தேயிலைத் தயாரிக்கும் கம்பெனி. இதில் 300 தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலைசெய்கிறார்கள். இது வெல்லிங்டனில் இருக்கிறது. 1953–54-ம் வருஷத்தில் ஒரு மாத போனஸ் சமரச அதிகாரி சிபார்சு செய்திருந்தும் போனஸ் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை **Stay-in-strike** மூலமாக மிக ஒற்றுமையாக நடத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். கம்பெனியும் விட்டு கொடுக்கவில்லை. முதலிலேயே அட்ஜுடிகேஷனுக்கு விட்டிருந்தால் இந்த ஸ்ட்ரைக் வந்திருக்காது. இப்பொழுது எந்த நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறது என்று அறியவிரும்புகிறேன்.

" Sir, I like to call the attention of the Minister to a matter 10 a.m.
of urgent public importance, viz., the workers of the Brindavan Properties, Limited, Wellington, Coonoor, are on stay-in-strike from 17th January 1955 since the demand of the workers for one month's bonus for 1953–54 has been refused even though the same has been recommended by the Concilation Officer. The Government also have failed to intervene in time to settle the dispute and to avert the strike even though sufficient notice was given."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make the following statement. It would be for the House to judge whether the Government failed to intervene in the matter :—

' 1. ' The Coonoor Tea Factory Workers ' Union, Coonoor and the Nilgiri District Tea Workers' Union, Coonoor, raised a dispute regarding the grant of bonus for 1953-54. The management offered an *ex-gratia* payment of one month's wages as bonus on 11th November 1954 with the condition that the workers should accept the bonus unconditionally before 14th November 1951.

2. ' The workers have not accepted the bonus offered by the management. They have demanded two months' wages as bonus.

3. ' The Labour Officer, Coonoor, held conciliation proceedings on 29th November 1954, 17th January 1955, and 14th February 1955. The conciliation had dragged on as the audited profit and loss account and the balance sheet were not available. The Workers' Unions agreed to accept the payment of one month's wages as bonus but they wanted the matter to be taken up again with reference to the balance-sheet. But the management were not agreeable to this.

4. ' The Government have, therefore, after consulting the Commissioner of Labour referred the following issues for adjudication :—

(1) Whether the workers of the Brindhavan Properties, Limited, Wellington, are eligible for the immediate payment of one month's wages originally offered by the Management as an interim bonus ;

(2) what shall be the quantum of bonus payable to the workers of the Brindhavan Properties, Limited, Wellington, for 1953-54. ' "

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS INDEBTED AGRICULTURISTS (REPAYMENT OF DEBTS) BILL, 1955 (L.A. BILL NO. 2 OF 1955).

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the report[a] of the Joint Select Committee on the Madras Indebted Agriculturists (Repayment of Debts) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1955) and move—

' *That the Madras Indebted Agriculturists (Repayment of Debts) Bill,* 1955 (*L.A. Bill No.* 2 *of* 1955), *as amended by the Joint Select Committee, be taken into consideration.*'

" Sir, the Joint Select Committee sat for two days and considered the provisions of the Bill in detail and made a few suggestions also. I may just make a passing reference to some of the important changes.

" Sir, in clause 2, the change made is as regards a simple mortgagee. Under the definition ' agriculturist ', anybody having interest in any agricultural land will also come under that. So it is now sought that the simple mortgage will not come under that.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 309-324 *infra*.